



PATENT *HW*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Landry, et al.

Serial No.: 10/697,793

Filed: October 30, 2003

For: SPINAL STABILIZATION SYSTEMS  
AND METHODS

Attorney Docket No.: 5259-10700.US.03

Examiner: (not yet assigned)

Group Art Unit: 3732

**Certificate of Mailing under 37 CFR §1.8(a):**

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail addressed to:

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on:

Date of Deposit: 10/5/05

*Kimberly A. Iorio* 10/5/05  
Kimberly A. Iorio Date

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for the patent application identified above entitled SPINAL STABILIZATION SYSTEMS AND METHODS are the following:

1. Preliminary Amendment (3 Pages)
2. Replacement Figure 24 (1 Sheet)
3. Annotated Sheet Figure 24 Showing Changes Made (1 Sheet)
4. Information Disclosure Statement (2 Pages)
5. Form PTO-1449 (1 Page) in duplicate
6. Copy of PCT International Search Report for PCT/US03/34469 (8 Pages)
7. Non-US Patent and US Publication References as cited on Form PTO-1449 (9 References)

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the amount for any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR §1.16, as well as any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.17 associated with this communication for which full payment had not been tendered, to Deposit Account No. 01-0025. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Landry, et al.

ABBOTT LABORATORIES  
Customer No.: 23492  
Telephone: (847) 938-7576  
Facsimile: (847) 938-2623

*Beth A. Vrioni*  
Beth A. Vrioni  
Registration No. 39,869  
Attorney for Applicants